

The list of honors he has received in his lifetime is impressive and reflects the impact that he has had on American music and culture. His music cannot be categorized or limited to one genre, which cannot be said of many artists. He was influenced by all types of music, and his music in turn influenced all types of artists—from rhythm and blues to country artists to rock and roll.

Ray Charles's story is an American story, and one that should serve as an inspiration to us all; a story that shows how a strong spirit can overcome the greatest of obstacles.

Ray Charles once said that his family was so poor that "nothing was below us but the floor." Despite this poor beginning, and the racism and prejudice he undoubtedly faced as a blind black man during this time, he triumphed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 381) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 381

Whereas Ray Charles, born Ray Charles Robinson on September 23, 1930, to Bailey and Aretha Robinson in Albany, Georgia, was one of the greatest musical artists of the United States;

Whereas Ray Charles, who as an infant moved with his family to Greenville, Florida, and, after suffering an illness that left him blind, attended the St. Augustine School for the Deaf and Blind from 1937 to 1945, where he learned not only how to read Braille, but how to write music and play the piano, trumpet, clarinet, and alto saxophone;

Whereas during the course of his 58-year career, Ray Charles defied easy classification, as his music spanned all genres, and many talented musicians from the world of rhythm and blues, popular music, jazz, gospel, country, and rock and roll have noted his strong influence on their careers;

Whereas his talent has long been recognized by the recording industry and his many fans, as he has received 12 Grammy Awards, with the first in 1960 and the most recent award in 1993, and had 32 of his songs reach the national Billboard's top 40 pop charts between 1957 and 1971;

Whereas his influence and contributions to the world are evidenced by the numerous honors he has received from organizations, and institutions, including: the Blues Foundation's Hall of Fame, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Songwriters Hall of Fame, Georgia Music Hall of Fame, Florida Artists Hall of Fame, a Lifetime Achievement Award as part of the Black Achievement Awards television show sponsored by Johnson Publishing Company, a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the Helen Keller Personal Achievement Award from the American Foundation for the Blind, and an honorary doctorate of fine arts from the University of South Florida in Tampa;

Whereas Ray Charles has received praise from Republican and Democratic Adminis-

trations with the adoption of "Georgia on My Mind" as the Georgia State song in 1979, an invitation in 1984 to perform at the Republican National Convention and President Reagan's inaugural ball in 1985, recognition in 1986 as a legend by the Kennedy Center Honors, and the presentation of a National Medal of Arts by President Clinton in 1993;

Whereas Ray Charles was a great humanitarian and activist who provided financial support to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during the civil rights struggle, and joined with other recording artists to record "We Are the World", a project that brought world awareness and financial assistance to the millions dying from starvation in Africa;

Whereas during the course of his life he persevered, overcoming the tremendous obstacles that he encountered in the early stages of his career due to racism and prejudice because of his blindness, to become one of the greatest and defining musical talents of all time; and

Whereas this great American, Ray Charles, died on June 10, 2004: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes Ray Charles as one of the greatest American musicians of all time;

(2) honors Ray Charles for his contributions to music, culture, community, and the United States;

(3) offers its appreciation to Ray Charles for sharing his musical gifts with the world; and

(4) extends its deepest sympathy to the family and the loved ones of Ray Charles.

#### ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, BILL FRIST, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 17. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of Calendar No. 503, S. 2400, the Department of Defense authorization bill; provided further, that Senator BOND be recognized in order to call up the Bond-Harkin amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, tomorrow the Senate will resume the Defense authorization bill. Under the previous order, when we resume consideration of the bill tomorrow morning, the Bond-Harkin energy employee amendment will be the pending business. It is the hope of the bill managers that we can adopt the amendment without a rollcall vote.

For the remainder of the day, we will continue the consideration of amendments to the bill. There is another amendment that I will offer related to death benefits, and there are several missile defense amendments we hope to consider early in the day. Senators should expect rollcall votes throughout the day as the Senate continues to make progress on the bill. As a re-

minder, a cloture motion was filed on the Defense bill.

In addition, there will be additional votes on judicial nominations during Thursday's session as well.

Mr. President, I will just add, on the death benefits bill, legislation I have offered, that it is important, in my view, we examine the extent of death benefits to men and women who serve our country in combat. Frankly, it is not where it should be. This bill would increase those benefits. It will be done in a way that will not engender a budget point of order. But I think we can make some progress with that tomorrow, and I hope Senators will be alert to this issue. I think, frankly, we are not where we should be in generosity toward those who give their lives for their country.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:17 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, June 17, 2004, at 9:30 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate June 16, 2004:

##### THE JUDICIARY

MICHAELA ALVAREZ, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS, VICE DAVID HITTNER, RETIRING.

##### IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271:

##### To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) DALE G. GABEL, 0000  
REAR ADM. (LH) JEFFREY M. GARRETT, 0000  
REAR ADM. (LH) STEPHEN W. ROCHON, 0000

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CORPS AND FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT (IDENTIFIED BY AN ASTERISK(\*)) UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624, 531, AND 3064:

##### To be lieutenant colonel

STEPHAN A. \* ALKINS, 0000  
ROMNEY C. ANDERSEN, 0000  
GEORGE N. \* APPENZILLER, 0000  
MARTIN F. BAECHELER, 0000  
MATTHEW T. \* BAKER, 0000  
VINCENT \* BATTISTA, 0000  
ANDREW J. \* BAUER, 0000  
BRIAN M. \* BELSON, 0000  
ELIZABETH P. BERBANO, 0000  
STEPHEN A. BERNSTEIN, 0000  
ELISABETH G. BEYERNOLEN, 0000  
JEFFREY G. BLUE, 0000  
BRET R. \* BOYLE, 0000  
KEVIN J. \* BOYLE, 0000  
DAMON W. \* BRANTLEY, 0000  
MATTHEW L. \* BRENGMAN, 0000  
BRUCE A. \* BROWN, 0000  
JEROME L. \* BULLER, 0000  
MARK W. \* BURNETT, 0000  
WAYNE B. \* CHUN, 0000  
YONG H. \* CHUN, 0000  
DANIEL L. \* CRUSER, 0000  
JAMES F. \* CUMMINGS, 0000  
JAMES E. CZARNIK, 0000  
ERIK A. DAHL, 0000  
ANTHONY M. DANIELS, 0000  
CHRISTIAN \* DEGRIGORIO, 0000  
LEON S. \* DEMARTELAERE, 0000  
ROBERT C. \* DINSMORE, 0000  
MICHAEL DLUGOPOLSKI, 0000  
MARIA R. DORIA, 0000  
JOHN F. \* FARR III, 0000  
GARY D. \* FLEISCHER, 0000